

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members, APEX Steering Group  
SUBJECT : Strawman APEX Steering Group Charter

I hope you will be prepared to discuss this at  
our next meeting. I would like to have it unclassified.



SA to the DCI

Attachment:  
Draft Charter for APEX Steering Group

Date 16 January 1980

OS-0-0150/2

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16 JAN 1980

APEX STEERING GROUP

DRAFT CHARTER

OS REGISTRY

FILE Security 18

In support of the DCI's statutory responsibilities and his efforts to improve the Intelligence Community's product and achieve more efficient use of intelligence resources, the Community's compartmentation policies and procedures must effectively and consistently protect intelligence and intelligence sources and methods and must ensure timeliness and economy in the handling of compartmented information. Therefore, pursuant to provision of Subsection 102 (d) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, to provisions of Subsections 1-601 (h) and (i) of Executive Order 12036, to provisions of Subsection 4-2 of Executive Order 12065, to Presidential Directive/NSC-55 January 7, 1980 and DCI memorandum of 10 January 1980 for Principals, National Foreign Intelligence Board an APEX Steering Group is established.

Mission: The mission of the APEX Steering Group (ASG) is to provide the means by which the Director of Central Intelligence can:

- a. Serve as the Executive Agent for the National Security Council in establishing and operating a single special access system called APEX to protect particularly sensitive intelligence sources and methods.

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b. Ensure establishment of policies and procedures to control information on the operational details of the most sensitive intelligence sources and methods as determined by the DCI and the intelligence product which can reveal such information.

c. Ensure uniform security standards governing access to, distribution of and protection of intelligence sources and methods, subject to any specific statutory requirements applicable to any department or agency.

Functions: The functions of the APEX Steering Group include:

a. To review, formulate and recommend to the DCI, policies, guidelines and standard procedures related to the implementation of the APEX Special Access Control System.

b. To develop policy and implementation regulations pertaining to dissemination, decompartmentation and sanitization of APEX material.

c. To energize, monitor and oversee the conversion of current systems of compartmentation to APEX.

d. To formulate, coordinate, and promulgate guidance for use in the administration of APEX.

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at all echelons of department and agency

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activity, including consultants and contractor support activity.

e. To task, guide, assist and monitor the Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX), the SIGINT Committee, the SECURITY Committee and managers of executive agent programs in discharging their charter responsibilities as may be related to the conversion to APEX.

f. To staff for the DCI any appeals arising during implementation of the APEX program.

g. To implement, in concert with the relevant DCI Committees and managers of executive agent programs, the provisions and recommendations of the December 1979 Final Report of the NFIB Working Group on Compartmentation.

h. To assist the Special Assistant to the DCI for Compartmentation in discharge of his responsibilities as assigned by the DCI.

i. To obtain from departments and agencies participating in the APEX Program information needed to ensure accurate and detailed reports to the DCI on the progress of implementation, problem areas and recommendations for improvements and to make such reports as appropriate but not less than quarterly.

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Composition:

The APEX Steering Group will be chaired by the Special Assistant to the DCI for Compartmentation who will be supported by the APEX Control Staff. The APEX Steering Group will have representatives of the Principals of the NFIB whose departments and agencies participate in the APEX Special Access Control Program, the COMIREX, SIGINT Committee, DCI SECURITY Committee and managers of executive agent programs. The Chairman may invite a representative of the chief of any other department or agency having functions related to matters being considered by the Steering Group.

The Chairman will establish panels and ad hoc working groups as he finds necessary assuring their composition represents opportunity for joint coordinated effort of program managers and the users of their product.

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